

UAE sends GCC message to Iran

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Iran's Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati Sunday received a message from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on the Iran-Iraq war. Saif Sari, head of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) department at the UAE Foreign Ministry, carried the message. The official Emirates News Agency WAM said the message concerned a GCC-Iran dialogue "with a view to defusing tension in the Gulf and ending the Iran-Iraq war." Tehran Radio said Mr. Velayati told Mr. Saif that the only path to true security and stability in the region was through cooperation between the Arab Gulf States and Iran. It said Mr. Saif Rashid Abdullah, saying that cooperation between the GCC and Iran would curb the influence of foreign powers in the Gulf. "We are ready for any sort of cooperation in this regard and we are optimistic about the positive results of such talks," Mr. Velayati told Mr. Saif.

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King meets Greek Orthodox patriarchs

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Sunday received a delegation of Greek Orthodox religious leaders, including Patriarch Bartholomew of Alexandria, Patriarch Athanasius of Antakia and Patriarch Theodosius I of Jerusalem. The patriarchs, currently on a visit to Jordan, expressed pride in visiting Amman saying that "it is the converging place of all the faithful" and stressed the brotherly relations linking followers of both Islamic and Christian faiths in Jordan. The audience was attended by Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem and Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh (Fayez meets patriarchs, page 3).

Deadline extended for family books

AMMAN (Petra) — The Civil Registration Department (CRD) has decided to extend the deadline set for people from the occupied West Bank and Jordanian expatriates to obtain family books to Dec. 31, 1988. The decision was taken to enable the concerned people to prepare all the necessary support documents for obtaining the book. The CRD director general, Adnan Mirza, also called on all citizens eligible for voting and wishing to obtain voter cards to proceed to the CRD offices to get the card. This step, comes in implementation of Interior Ministry's decision to postpone the deadline for obtaining the voter cards until the end of this year.

Egyptian accused of spying for Israel

CAIRO (AP) — Security authorities have arrested an Egyptian teacher and accused him of spying for Israel, the semi-official Middle East News Agency (MENA) reported Sunday. In an unattributed report, the agency said authorities had arrested Ali Abdul Hamid Sobh Labad, an Egyptian teacher, and accused him of "spying for Israel and supplying it with important information about the country, especially military information." The agency said he was being tried by a military court.

Gorbachev proposes summit with China

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has proposed a summit meeting with China, saying both sides were now ready for this, the official news agency TASS reported Sunday. The proposal came in an interview with the Chinese weekly Liaowang, a TASS report of which was read on the main television news. "It would be a logical development, in our view, to hold a Soviet-Chinese summit. Judging by all accounts, both sides realize the objective necessity of this. To meet each other, we can find mutually acceptable solutions — we are sure of that," TASS quoted Mr. Gorbachev as saying.

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King receives Syrian message on Gulf efforts and Palestinian revolt

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein Sunday received a message from Syrian President Hafez Al Assad. The message, delivered by Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharaa, was believed to deal with Syria's efforts to find an end to the Iran-Iraq war and the ongoing Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Mr. Sharaa, who earlier met with Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri, told the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that the King also discussed with him the Palestinian protests in the occupied territories.

Describing the protests as a heroic uprising, Mr. Sharaa said the anti-occupation revolt was "a turning point in the struggle in the occupied territories."

He told Petra that the national resistance in South Lebanon had "greatly contributed to reviving the hopes of people in the occupied Arab territories for an uprising against the occupation authorities and the Israeli oppres-



His Majesty King Hussein Sunday receives Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharaa who delivered to His Majesty a message from Syrian President Hafez Al Assad (Petra photo)

sion."

Mr. Sharaa said his recent talks with Gulf Arab officials had mainly focused on "the situation in the region and the importance of achieving Arab solidarity and building a united Arab stand to confront challenges facing our Arab Nation in addition to supporting the Arab Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories."

The Syrian official said Syria

"continuously exchange views with brotherly Jordan and other Arab brethren in the way of enhancing the capabilities of our Arab Nation towards confronting challenges."

Mr. Masri and Mr. Sharaa reviewed the situation in the Gulf and ongoing efforts towards an end to the Iran-Iraq war, Petra reported.

(Continued on page 3)



2 sentenced to death for murder of moneychanger

AMMAN (J.T.) — Two men were sentenced to death by a military court Sunday for the July 6 murder of a moneychanger in Amman. A third was sentenced to life imprisonment and a fourth was sentenced in absentia to 20 years in jail.

The military court said Nasser Mohammad Ali, 28, and Ahmad Salim Jumaa, 22, would be hanged for killing Mohieddin Bashti.

The third man, Ahmad Shatewi, 24, was given life imprisonment with hard labour.

The court also sentenced a fourth man to 20 years in prison as he was said to have been aware of the gang's plots and helped in carrying out their plans. The man was identified as Mohammad

Shawamneh who was sentenced in absentia because he is still at large, the court sentence said.

The three were arrested last month and the Public Security Department (PSD) said that they confessed to the killing, and armed robbery of nearly JD 100,000 in Jordanian and foreign currency.

PSD Director General Abdul Hadi Majali, who made the announcement of the gang's capture to a press conference on December 8, 1987, said that Ali was the killer while Jumaa was the mastermind of the crime, but Shatewi provided the getaway car.

The military court sentencing has to be ratified by the military governor and approved by a Royal Decree.

Junblatt offers to return Lebanese army helicopter

MUKHTARA, Lebanon (R) — Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt, seeking to avoid fresh sectarian violence, said on Sunday he would hand a stolen helicopter back to the Lebanese army.

But he told a rally he would give it to a Druze-dominated unit and it was unclear whether the Christian-led army would accept this as an end to a 12-day feud.

Addressing followers in Mukhtara, his home town in the Shouf mountains southeast of Beirut, the leader of mostly Druze PSP said: "As for the helicopter over which so much fuss has been made, I will give it as a present to the national Lebanese troops and army officers in the Hammana barracks...

The donation of the helicopter is to uncoil the mounting tension and to avoid another round of violence in Lebanon."

Hammana, 28 kilometres east of Beirut, is the base of the army's 11,000-strong, Druze-dominated 11th brigade, consist-

Mubarak calls on Israel and Iran to accept peace

ABU DHABI (Agencies) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak arrived here Sunday on the second leg of a Gulf tour, coming from Saudi Arabia, where he called on Iran and Israel to accept peaceful solutions to their conflicts with the Arab World.

Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahayan, president of the United Arab Emirates, is leading efforts by the GCC to persuade Iran to accept a negotiated end to the Iran-Iraq war, now in its eighth year.

Mr. Mubarak also warned Iran Sunday against attacking the Gulf states hosting his first tour of the Arab World as head of state and diplomats said he could be ready to boost defences in the region.

Mr. Mubarak arrived here from Riyadh, first stop of his tour of the six Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states, where he had separate talks with King Fahd and visiting U.S. Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci (See page 2).

Mr. Mubarak told King Fahd that Egypt was committed to the security of the GCC, which links Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the UAE, a senior Egyptian official said.

"Any aggression on the GCC is an attack on Egypt... Mubarak sent a loud and clear message to the Iranians," said the official, who declined to be identified.

Addressing a news conference at the end of his two-day visit to

Israel pours soldiers into Gaza but fails to blunt resistance

• Two more Arabs, including pregnant woman, fall martyr

Gaza Strip boils with pervasive Arab protests

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Two Palestinians died and at least 39 were wounded by army gunfire in widespread anti-occupation protests Sunday as Israel poured more troops and armoured personnel carriers into the occupied Gaza Strip.

As the protests entered its second month in the occupied West Bank and Gaza, the Israeli cabinet endorsed Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin's "iron fist" policy which has drawn international condemnation.

Doctors said 35-year-old Tonkan Musabbah died at Gaza's Shifa hospital after being shot at his shop in the city's Shajaiye district, where demonstrators burned tyres and stoned Israeli

soldiers and vehicles. The Palestine Press Service (PPS) said a 35-year-old pregnant woman, identified as Wigdan Fari, had a miscarriage and died at a Khan Yunis hospital Sunday after becoming over by tear-gas policy which has drawn international condemnation.

Relatives said the woman, who was in labour, died of suffocation.

staged anti-Israeli demonstrations and closed all or most shops in Askar and Balata refugee camps and in Nablus. Palestinian sources said.

The Israeli army imposed or extended curfews Sunday on half a dozen refugee camps and cities in Gaza and the occupied West Bank.

The army also ordered the West Bank's Birzeit University closed for one month, military officials said. The university has been the site of frequent demonstrations.

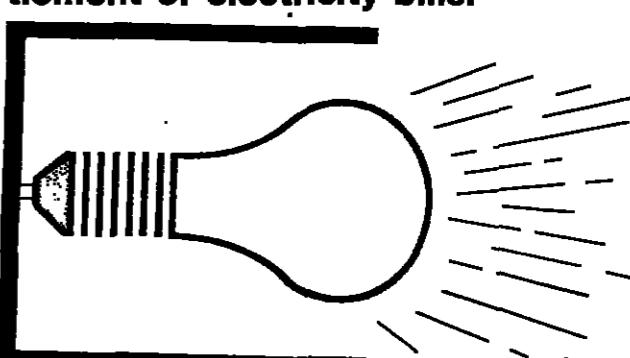
The army confirmed Sunday that a 65-year-old man from Rafah died over the weekend of gunshot wounds sustained in protests last month.

(Continued on page 3)

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Benjedid begins Tunis visit; talks focus on Maghreb unity

TUNIS (Agencies) — Algerian President Chadli Benjedid arrived in Tunis Sunday for an official working visit of 48 hours, the first to Tunisia by a foreign head of state since President Zine El Abidine Ibn Ali came to power two months ago.

Mr. Benjedid, accompanied by his foreign minister, Ahmad Taleb Ibrahim, was met at the airport by Mr. Ibn Ali and the entire Tunisian cabinet.

Mr. Ibn Ali took power in Tunisia Nov. 7 after aging, long-time President Habib Bourguiba was removed for reasons of health.

The visit of President Benjedid to Tunisia comes at an opportune time to give a concrete and decisive impulsion to the building of a grand Maghreb, this ideal which has gripped the hearts of our people and which is our only road to salvation," the official news agency Tunis Afrique Presse (TAP) wrote of the visit.

Mr. Benjedid's talks with Mr. Ibn Ali come two weeks after

Lebanese army under strain in feud, page 2.

Church reportedly paid £12,000 in bid to free Waite

LONDON (R) — The Church of England said on Saturday it paid £12,000 (\$21,600) in an abortive attempt to free its missing envoy Terry Waite.

The church said in a statement the sum was not a ransom but money given to two intermediaries to cover travelling and other related expenses.

The Sunday People claimed in its early editions that the church had been swindled out of the money in a "ruthless rip-off" by two men claiming to have access to Islamic extremists who have held Mr. Waite hostage in Lebanon for almost a year.

The paper said the church stopped paying money when it learned the two men had also approached U.S. negotiators offering to help free American hostages in Lebanon.

"My days of innocence were over," the paper quoted John Lyttle, secretary for public affairs to

Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie, as saying.

A Foreign Office spokesman said: "We did know about the way in which (the church) were going to proceed. We expressed our considerable reservations that this was the right way to proceed but it was their decision to act in the way they did."

He said the church had received a large number of approaches from people claiming they could bring about Mr. Waite's release and that of other hostages in Lebanon.

"Every approach has been followed up to the point at which it became clear that no result was remotely likely," Mr. Lyttle added.

Israel, facing harsh U.S. criticism, blames press coverage of Arab revolt

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — The Israeli government, facing mounting criticism from the United States for its policies in the occupied Arab territories, has blamed press coverage for its tattered image.

Israeli Ambassador to Washington Moshe Arad wrote Foreign Minister Shimon Peres saying he was concerned about growing dissatisfaction among U.S. government officials and Jewish leaders, Israel Television reported Saturday.

But Avi Pazner, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's press adviser, said the government had launched an information campaign to overcome the criticism. He said it was caused largely by media photographs which did not tell the whole story.

He also denied charges by the foreign press that the army was restricting coverage of Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Arad told Peres the United States supported a recent U.N. Security Council resolution condemning Israel because it was angry at the Israeli government for ignoring its advice.

The Security Council last week censured Israel for ordering the deportation of nine Palestinians alleged to be ringleaders of violent demonstrations of the past month.

The U.S. government urged Israel not to use live ammunition in quelling the disturbances in the occupied territories nor deport the Palestinians.

Twenty-seven protesters have

help free Western hostages held in Lebanon.

Before handing over any money, we consulted Scotland Yard (the police), we informed the Foreign Office and we consulted a number of other people," Mr. Lyttle said.

"There's been no other case in which we have paid any money for expenses of anything else. There has never been any question of making a ransom payment."

He said the church had been deceived but said it had paid the sum "to cover travelling and related expenses. That sum was to include several journeys from the Middle East to London and Cyprus. There was no useful result."

Mr. Waite, Runcie's 49-year-old envoy, disappeared on Jan. 20, 1987 whilst on a mission to

interview on Israel Television. "It is unrestricted except in those areas which the army decides to close for operational reasons."

An army spokesman denied that the Gaza Strip was closed to reporters on Saturday.

Israel Radio reported that in 1982 the supreme court handed down a ruling granting the army sole right to decide whether reporters would be allowed to enter the occupied territories.

Meanwhile London's Sunday Telegraph reported Sunday that a British minister's rebuke to Israel for its treatment of Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip was planned by British officials who want to push Israel toward a Middle East peace conference.

It said the British want a quick end to Israeli repressive policies in the occupied territories.

The London weekly newspaper, in an unattributed story, said the criticism by visiting Minister of State David Mellor in Gaza last Monday will be repeated in an even stronger tone by him when he visits Jordan and Bahrain and holds talks with Arab ambassadors in London.

"British representatives will repeat the condemnation at United Nations Security Council and European Community meetings," the newspaper added.

The "New British strategy" also means that Shamir, who wanted to visit London to discuss "the crisis in the Israeli-occupied territories," will be snubbed by Addis Ababa.

Reporters say the army has been declaring areas out of bounds to journalists with increasing frequency.

Pazner rejected the accusation.

"There is no attempt to prevent coverage," he said in an

interview with the Sunday Telegraph.

The complaint followed reports from journalists who said soldiers barred them from entering the occupied Gaza Strip on Saturday. One Palestinian was killed and at least five others wounded in the area during the day.

Israel Radio reported that soldiers in Khan Yunis held Amir Weinberg, a photographer from the daily *Yediot Achronot*, for four hours and confiscated his film. The army accused him of taking pictures in a restricted military zone.

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Lawzi expresses gratitude to King for reappointment

AMMAN (Petra) — Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament (Senate) Ahmad Al Lawzi Sunday sent a message to His Majesty King Hussein expressing gratitude to the King for reappointing him to serve another term in his post and pledging to work under the King's guidance and directives.

On Saturday, King Hussein issued a decree naming a new Upper House of Parliament and reappointing Mr. Lawzi as speaker of the 30-member House.

In his message, Mr. Lawzi said that he will work diligently and loyally to serve the Hashemite throne under the King's wise leadership and following the principles of the Great Arab Revolt.

"The Senate will work towards protecting the Arab Order and regaining Arab rights and holy places in the occupied Arab land, and will support Iraq in its drive to defend Arab soil," Mr. Lawzi said.

He also said that the Senate would cooperate with the executive authority to serve the Kingdom.

Conference calls for Arab agricultural coordination

CAIRO (Petra) — Participants in the First Arab Conference on Agricultural Coordination which opened here Sunday stressed the need for coordinating Arab policies on agriculture and food, with a view to achieving Arab food integration and reducing Arab food imports.

Arab imports of food totalled some \$20 billion in 1980, compared with approximately \$2 billion in 1970.

Minister of Agriculture Marwan Hmoud, head of the Jordanian delegation to the meetings, said that the conference aimed at opening specialised pan-Arab dialogue on food security and coordinating agricultural trade policies.

In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Mr. Hmoud said that the conference would also discuss coordinating agricultural and economic data bases in Arab countries.

Taking part in the conference are representatives of 13 Arab countries.

Education Ministry says no plans to cancel any tawjiji questions

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Education does not intend to cancel any of the questions set for the mid-year tawjiji (secondary school certificate) examinations because the questions do not exceed the students' level, Ahmad Taqi, the ministry's director of examinations announced Sunday.

Mr. Taqi was responding to complaints in the local press about the difficulty of questions given to students in the past 10 days of examinations, especially in English, physics and mathematics.

He said that the students should be able to answer questions, and that ministry officials conducted daily tours of examination halls to ensure that there were no obstacles impeding the progress of the examinations.

At least 51,783 students took the examination in seven different streams: scientific, literary, commercial, agricultural, hotel management, industrial and nursing.

Cement industries factory chief leaves for Casablanca meetings

AMMAN (Petra) — Director-General of the Jordan Cement Industries Factory (JCIF) Khalid Al Thaher left for Casablanca Sunday to take part in the meetings of the board of directors of the Arab Union for Cement and Cement Products (AUCPP) due to open Tuesday.

In a pre-departure statement, Dr. Thaher said that the board would discuss the union's activities and financial report from 1987 and a plan for 1988. He said that the board would also consider applications from Arab countries for joining the union.

Dr. Thaher, who is the Chairman of the AUCPP board, is accompanied to the three-day meeting by Mr. Jamal Wishah, director of the JCIF's Public Relations Department.

The AUCPP was established in 1977 by the Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) for the purpose of promoting technical, industrial and commercial links among Arab states, to coordinate industrial operations among union members and to contribute to the general development of the cement industry in Arab countries.

The union groups 77 members who represent cement and building materials companies and organisations throughout the Arab World, in addition to consultancy offices which assist these companies in marketing their products.

Arab accountants society signs agreement for exams in Arabic

AMMAN (J.T.) — President of the Arab Society of Certified Accountants (ASCA) Talal Abu Ghazaleh stated in a press conference Sunday that ASCA has entered into a new phase with a recently-signed joint agreement with the Association of Certified Accountants (ACCA) to conduct ASCA qualification examinations in Arabic.

According to the agreement, the examinations will be supervised by ACCA through a committee formed of three members of ASCA and three of ACCA.

The society's examinations are assessed by ACCA to ensure comparability with the equivalent papers of the association's examination.

Mr. Abu Ghazaleh said that the first section of the Arabic examinations will be held in November 1989.

For this purpose examination centres have been chosen in Amman, Manama and Riyadh.

Reception marks staging of KLM's 'Holland Calling' show

AMMAN (J.T.) — On the occasion of the presentation of "Holland Calling," staged throughout the world since 1986, KLM Airline held a reception at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel.

Guests were received by KLM Director-General in Jordan Najib Fakhouri, who welcomed the audience and stressed the role of the Dutch airlines in supporting cultural, commercial and touristic exchange between Jordan and the Netherlands.

Mr. Fakhouri also thanked Jordanian officials for their con-



His Majesty King Hussein Sunday receives at Al Nadwa Palace American Congressman Mel Levine. (Petra photo)

Queen chairs meeting to review Noor Al Hussein Foundation activities

AMMAN (J.T.) — Under the chairmanship of Her Majesty Queen Noor, the first meeting for 1988 of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) Board of Trustees was convened Sunday afternoon at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC).

The board examined the financial and administrative reports reflecting the progress of the NHF's projects during the last two years, as well as the foundation's work plan and budget for 1988 and 1989.

Discussion focused on projects which will be launched and implemented during the specified time period, namely:

The Jubilee School, a secondary-level, co-educational institution which will have a capacity for 600 outstanding students to be selected from schools throughout the country.

The Training Programmes for Women in Community Development and Management, which will promote and expand the contribution of women to development and decision making.

The Al Noor Project for the Development of Rural Areas, which will establish model development schemes to local communities.

The Traditional Crafts Industry, for which a centre for the training of traditional crafts has been established in the city of Salt, in cooperation with the Italian government and the Salt Development Corporation.

The Health Communications Project, which aims, through various media addresses and campaigns, to spread greater awareness of mother and child health issues.

Earlier, the board members met with the jury responsible for the Jubilee School Architectural Design Competition and reviewed the winning design and other entries.

The members of the board also visited the National Music Conservatory to observe a beginners group violin lesson. The students, between ages six and thirteen, represent a new group that has enrolled in the Violin Programme since the establishment of the conservatory — a Noor Al Hussein Foundation project — in November 1986.

The conservatory began with three instructors and 45 students, and, to date, has grown to include 12 instructors and 100 students who receive lessons in violin, viola, cello, trumpet, trombone and saxophone.

Seminar aims to improve women's management skills, work efficiency

By Sana Atiyeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A woman cannot assume her role in society side by side with men unless her education and skills are developed, according to the under secretary of the Ministry of Labour and Social Development.

Opening a four-day seminar on participation in management Sunday, Dr. Mohammad Saqour said that Jordan believes in the principle of justice and equality between men and women, and is keen on training women and improving their professional standards so that they can participate fully in the country's economic and social development.

She explained that the seminar aims to increase women's participation in the labour market and to improve their productivity.

"The seminar on participation in management as a concept and in application aims at improving women's contributions and work efficiency," Mrs. Abdul Jaber said.

Also speaking at the seminar's opening was Mohammad Yousef, vice president of the Arab Centre for Management Development, who briefly explained participation and unionism, possible advantages of participation as a managerial device and key ideas

in participation.

He said that some advantages of increased participation would be a higher rate of output and better quality of products; a reduction in turnover, absenteeism, and employee laziness; and an improvement in manager-subordinate and manager-union relations.

Dr. Yousef said participation is mental and emotional involvement; and that it motivates contribution and encourages people to accept responsibility for their activities.

Dr. Yousef was the first lecturer in the seminar, and he discussed in more detail the concept of participation in management.

Other speakers who will lecture within the next few days are Dean of the War Academy Zuhair Al Kayed, who will discuss management by objectives; Dr. Kamal Bikdash, who will discuss communication and transactional analysis; Director-General of the Institute of Public Administration Mr. Abdallah Ellayan, who will speak on management leadership; and, finally, a briefing on the new Civil Service Law will be presented by Director of the Civil Service Commission Ibrahim Izzeddin.

Mubarak calls on Israel and Iran to accept peace

(Continued from Page 1)

against Israel in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip signify a "premonition or ring the alarm bells to end the stalemate in the Palestinian case."

He rebuked Mr. Shamir for "backing down" on his predecessor's acceptance of the principle of convening an international conference for peace in the Middle East.

"I blame Israel's prime minister... why does he reject the international conference? Why does he fear it? It will only be a (Middle East peace) case for discussion," Mr. Mubarak said.

He resented Mr. Shamir's purported demand that the 1979 U.S.-arranged Camp David frameworks between Egypt and Israel be reverted to as the basis for a comprehensive Middle East settlement.

"He (Shamir) violated Camp David," said Mr. Mubarak. "Annering the Golan was a violation of Camp David, (making) Jerusalem Israel's capital was a violation of Camp David. No one should accuse us of violating Camp David, when he was the first to have violated it."

He said in response to a question that Egypt will not sever relations with or withdraw its ambassador from Israel.

"If severing relations were to solve the (Palestinian) case, then I say welcome (to this suggestion)," Mr. Mubarak argued. "But God gave us brains to use."

Mr. Sharraa has also shamed between Saudi Arabia and Iran, in what amounted to a mediation effort to ease tension between Tehran and Gulf Arab states.

Mr. Sharraa told Petra in an arrival statement that Syria's diplomacy in the region was designed to create "the appropriate atmosphere to achieve a correct Arab position to deal with matters of mutual interest."

He said: "We are concentrating specially on any joint Arab effort to help our people in the occupied territories and to enable them to steadfastly resist the occupation."

results of the tour he made with Vice President Abdul Halim Khaddam to Arab Gulf capitals last week, said the Syrian sources.

Mr. Sharraa has also shamed between Saudi Arabia and Iran, in what amounted to a mediation effort to ease tension between Tehran and Gulf Arab states.

Syrian sources, quoted in news agency dispatches from Damascus as Mr. Sharraa headed for Amman earlier in the day, said the foreign minister was expected to brief Jordanian leaders on the progress of Syrian efforts to end the Iran-Iraq war.

Mr. Sharraa's briefing was to focus on the mediation and the

King receives U.S. legislator, reviews situation in occupied Arab territories

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Sunday reviewed with the American Congressman Mel Levine the current situation in the Israeli-occupied Arab territories.

Lawzi said that Jordan was sparing

no efforts in its drive to put an end to the Arab-Israeli conflict and to establish peace in the region.

Mr. Lawzi referred to the outcome of the Amman extraordinary Arab summit and said that it issued a unanimous statement bearing all evidence that the Arabs were seeking peace based on U.N. Security Council Resolutions 338 and 242.

According to Mr. Lawzi, tension in the Middle East is due largely to Israel's rejection of these resolutions, its rejection of all bids for peace and its refusal to recognise the Palestinian people's right in their homeland.

The Senate speaker voiced Jordan's appreciation to the U.S. for voting in favour of a Security Council resolution urging Israel to refrain from deporting Palestinians from their homeland. He said that the U.S. is invited to make further steps and work meaningfully towards the establishment of peace in the Middle East.

In a meeting with Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament (Senate) Ahmad Al Lawzi, Congressmen Bud Shuster and Michael DeWine said that Jordan is regarded as a fundamental element in the peace process; therefore it is qualified to play a significant role in the process, particularly because of its moderate policies and worldwide reputation it enjoys for these stands.

The violent events currently taking place in the occupied Arab territories reaffirm the need for establishing a permanent peace, and the opportunity now exists for efforts to be made in that direction, the congressmen said during an interview attended by several senators.

During the meeting, the participants made a general review of the Arab-Israeli conflict, and Mr. Levine was later received

Fayez stresses Muslim-Christian ties in talks with Greek Orthodox patriarchs

AMMAN (Petra) — Coexistence and cooperation between Christians and Muslims in Jordan constitute a unique experiment which ought to be copied by other countries of the world, Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Akef Al Fayez said Sunday.

In fact, the liberation of the holy Islamic and Christian places in Palestine cannot be done without close cooperation between Christians and Muslims, and without a unification of all efforts on the international level of exposing Israel's inhuman practices in its drive to obliterate the Christian and Muslim holy places and the Arab identity of Palestine.

Addressing a group of Greek Orthodox patriarchs, Mr. Fayez said that history has proved the depth of Muslim-Christian brotherhood in this part of the world, because both faiths share a common goal and destiny, and Christian and Muslim believers treat one another with respect and tolerance.

Referring to the situation in the Israeli-occupied Arab territories, where the patriarchs earlier visited, Mr. Fayez said that the current uprising against Israel's brutal measures proved that Christians and Muslims are fighting a common enemy who is attempting to evict them from their homeland.

In fact, the liberation of the holy Islamic and Christian places in Palestine cannot be done without close cooperation between Christians and Muslims, and without a unification of all efforts on the international level of exposing Israel's inhuman practices in its drive to obliterate the Christian and Muslim holy places and the Arab identity of Palestine.

Following the speeches, a general discussion took place between the patriarchs and Lower House members, with both sides reaffirming the close ties between Christianity and Islam.

Fayez receives Jordan Valley farmers

AMMAN (Petra) — Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Akef Al Fayez Sunday received a delegation representing Jordan Valley farmers who delivered to him a memorandum on the agricultural situation in the valley. The memorandum deals with marketing agricultural products, deteriorating prices of certain agricultural commodities and rescheduling farmers debts.

Gaza Strip boils with pervasive protests

(Continued from Page 1)

The army staged a major show of force in the Gaza Strip Sunday following massive head-on clashes in which two Arab protesters were shot and killed.

The protests were the main subject at a closed-door cabinet meeting Sunday. Israel Radio quoted Rabin as saying the situation was more serious than anticipated, but did not elaborate.

A statement issued by the cabinet after the meeting said without elaboration that Shamir "approved the policy put forward by the defence minister."

Army vehicles streamed into the Gaza Strip throughout the day. Soldiers backed by armoured personnel carriers patrolled Gaza City, Khan Yunis and Rafah and sealed off refugee camps throughout the strip.

At the entrance to the Bureij camp, soldiers lined up a dozen young Palestinians who were forced to kneel, their hands tied behind their backs. A soldier waved a club over their heads and warned them to remain still.

But Palestinian protesters seemed to rule the streets despite the heavy army presence.

In Khan Yunis, children as young as six erected huge barricades of boulders, old refrigerators, tree stumps and scraps of tin. The barricade stopped all traffic.

At least 17 people were injured in clashes in Maghazi, a camp of 11,000 people south of Gaza City.

Violent demonstrations were also reported in Rafah and the Deir Al Balah refugee camp. Israel army radio said that Mr. Goulding had pledged to boycott the U.N. vote and another urging Israel not to expel from the occupied territories nine Arabs accused of leading the protests, but the envoy said he still hoped to meet Shamir, Rabin and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres.

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Time for Egypt to use its clout

EGYPT'S insinuation that it is considering breaking off diplomatic relations with Israel over the deterioration of the situation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip is a step in the right direction. Egypt has considerable leverage with Israel, and this is the right time to use it.

As the death and casualties toll in the occupied Arab territories continues to rise, one would certainly expect Egypt to use whatever clout it has with Israel to pressure the Jewish state to stop its violations of human rights and international law.

Egypt took the strong measure of withdrawing its ambassador from Israel in protest over the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1982. It is time again for Egypt to make clear its protest and anger over the situation in the occupied territories, in a way that would hurt Israel the most. As Israel attaches so much importance to its peace agreement with Egypt, it must be made to comprehend that the future of that cherished peace agreement hangs in the balance should Israel persist in repressing the Palestinians and continue to evade its responsibilities under the peace agreement, with regard to the future of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Undoubtedly, Egyptian Ambassador to Israel Mohammad Bassiouni acted advisedly upon instructions Friday when he declared that his government could sever diplomatic relations with Israel because of the Israeli authorities' savage treatment of the Palestinians in the occupied territories. He was quoted as saying, "the future of ties between Israel and Egypt depends on the development of the situation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip." This is a most commendable reaction by Egypt; still one would have wished that Egypt had used its clout with Israel before the recent outbreak of violence in the occupied territories.

It has been almost nine years since the signing of the Camp David accords, yet nothing had been done to implement their provisions on the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Normally, such a contravention of the peace agreement by Israel could be taken as legal and political grounds to suspend the agreement, if to cancel it outright.

The Arab World and the Palestinian people expect Egypt to use whatever influence it has with Israel to not only bring an end to the violence perpetrated against the Palestinians living under occupation, but also to make Israel heed the call of the international community for an expeditious end to its occupation of the Arab territories.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Cabinet reshuffle

THE reshuffle of Prime Minister Zaid Rifai's cabinet is designed as a step towards re-organising the Jordanian home within the framework of a well-studied plan. The reshuffle is a natural practice in the course of development and copes with the firm commitment of Jordan which is being wisely governed and guided by King Hussein. This change has come about because of the need for re-organisation and it truly reflects the close cooperation between the legislative and executive branches of government in Jordan and the respect for the country's constitution. Under the wise leadership of King Hussein, Jordan has been able to build a unique image for itself; marked by cohesion among the members of the Jordanian family and enjoying world wide respect. Jordan has been regarded as an oasis of stability and social and economic prosperity in the troubled Middle East region, and the successive governments of the country had been involved in maintaining continued progress and at the same time building up strong armed forces and striving to strengthen inter-Arab solidarity. All the members of the Jordanian family whether in government or as ordinary citizens shoulder different responsibilities and carry out duties that contribute to Jordan's progress.

Al Dustour: The uprising persists

AFTER the elapse of more than a month since the beginning of the uprising in the occupied territories in the face of Israel's rule, it has become clear that the Arabs are in no mood of changing heart. They are more than ever determined to maintain the struggle for freedom, offering in this process more and more sacrifices and shedding blood of their sons and daughters. The more determined the Arab masses to continue the struggle, the more embarrassed are the Israeli leaders specially as their atrocities are being condemned world-wide. There is no escape for the Israelis from facing the reality and learning a lesson from the current revolt, and they must realise that military force however long it was imposed on the Arabs, it will finally be removed by the will of the masses. Israel with all its forces now seems unable to put down the revolt, and these forces have actually driven their government into an embarrassing situation before the eyes of the world.

Sawt Al Shaab: Momentum enhanced

THE new portfolios created by the prime minister through the cabinet reshuffle, points to the great importance of the duties of the present government and its drive to maintain the momentum for greater economic and social development. The creation of a ministry to take charge of irrigation and water in Jordan reflects the government's keenness on playing its role in promoting agriculture and at the same time providing more water for different projects. The creation of a ministry to take charge of culture and national heritage reflects the government's intention to promote the process of culture and to project Jordan's image to the world. It is also obvious that the creation of a ministry for tourism reflects the government's concern over stimulating the tourism industry and attracting more foreign visitors to the country's historical and archaeological sites. The reshuffle is therefore a move that came in response to the Kingdom's needs and requirements in the course of building up the country's economy.

Adding a nail to Camp David's coffin

By Waleed Sadi

THE aftermath of the popular uprising in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip could very well end up being another nail in the coffin of the Camp David Accords between Egypt and Israel. After nine years on its signing by the two countries, the agreement has very little to show for except the frigid peace that barely exists between the two countries and the on again off uprisings in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The lack of any progress on the negotiations envisaged in the fragile peace agreement on the occupied territories had already led many observers to conclude that the Egyptian-Israeli peace accord is bankrupt and unable to fulfill its many objectives. That it is barren is borne out by Cairo's reliance on the projected international peace conference idea to pursue the peace process in the Middle East rather than on the basis of the Camp David Accords. Even the Israeli Labour Party has all but given up on the Camp David Accords as a vehicle to affect and realise a peace agreement on the Arab occupied territories especially the West Bank and Gaza Strip, the subject of the continuing Palestinian popular revolt. Labour leader, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres has been most vociferous in his support for the international peace idea ostensibly to propel the peace process forward. In fact, he and his party have been saying very little on behalf of the Camp David peace agreement in the last few years as if signaling their acceptance of the verdict of history that the accords have indeed reached a dead end. Only the Likud Party through its leader, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, have been voicing a muted appeal to revert to its methodology in a desperate attempt to breathe new life into it. After all, these accords are the offsprings of the Likud Party on which its whole strategic thinking and projection have been based. It is to be expected that the Likud Party in Israel will try even mouth to mouth resuscitation to bring

life into it again. If this is the true state of affairs of the peace agreement between Egypt and Israel and the international peace conference idea is still elusive for one reason or another, where and how could the parties concerned proceed especially in the wake or rather in the midst of the ever increasing intensity of the popular uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

On the international scene there are encouraging signs that world public opinion is moving rapidly in favour of the Arab side of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The January 6 United Nations Security Council resolution is truly a landmark in U.N. involvement in the Palestinian case in the sense that the United States has abandoned Israel and swerved from its traditional role as a "shock-absorber" of international condemnation of Israeli practices and a "buffer" to deflect world criticism against it. The remarkable description of Palestinian refugee conditions in Gaza by British junior minister in charge of the Middle East affairs David Mellor as an "affront to civilised values," sums up the emerging attitude of even the staunchest allies of Israel on the events in the Arab occupied territories. Mr. Mellor's diagnosis of the cycle of violence in the occupied territories as due primarily to Israel's policy of "drift and limbo," can even be upgraded in order to attribute the responsibility for the collapse of the elusive peace process to international "drift and limbo," as well. "How long are people going to think that 1.5 million people can just be kept under the point of a gun," was the potent and focal question that Mr. Mellor addressed to the Israelis during his recent fact finding tour of the West Bank and Gaza Strip which could have very well been addressed to the whole world at large. The inertia demonstrated over and over again by the international and regional parties, with regard to the Palestinian case is obviously leading to the catastrophe that we are all

witnessing now in the Arab occupied territories.

I think that we have now a new ball game in our midst which requires "shifting gears", as it were, or even a reshuffle of the card game to reflect and take into consideration the developments that occurred in the Arab occupied territories in the last few weeks. The peace process or even the quest for the international peace conference can no longer be pursued in isolation of the on-going events in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and their lessons and implications. This is a time for the world and the Arab parties to re-examine their strategies and review their positions with regard to the most effective ways and means to affect a real movement in the peace process in the Middle East. Above all, these events and their implications would call on Israel to reconsider its whole attitude and perspective on the Palestinian case and the Arab-Israeli conflict. But would Israel heed the dictates of the events in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and learn from their lessons? Although it is premature to know the answer to this question, there are already more voices within Israel than ever demanding a genuine confrontation with reality. The time of reckoning it seems has arrived in Israel and no amount of semantics or self-delusions would salvage Israel from its dilemma. Israel is truly drowned up to its head with currents and under currents. While it had defeated Arab armies on more than one occasion within a span of few days, it has yet to subdue the popular uprising in its midst, inspite of the passing of over one month on the eruption. Possibly it may eventually succeed in "crushing" the Palestinian revolt by brute force but it will never succeed in muting the spirit that ignited it. It is there and will be there forever till Israel comes into grips with the bitter reality that no people can colonise another people forever.

Palestine Press Service: Voice of Palestinian resistance

By Sergei Shargorodsky

The Associated Press

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — A small office featuring a portrait of Che Guevara and pictures of black slaves driven by white masters has become a vital source of news on fast-breaking events in remote West Bank villages and Gaza refugee camps.

A voice over the phone announces: "This is the Palestine Press. We have a news bulletin for you." This may be the first word of a violent demonstration, a firebomb attack or the shooting by Israelis of an Arab protester.

The Arab-owned Palestine Press Service (PPS) receives its information through a network of reporters, freelancers and volunteers in the occupied territories, said Elias M. Zananiri, the PPS managing editor.

The PPS regards itself as an organ of the Palestine nationalist movement, reflecting the opinion of Palestinians in the occupied territories. For a monthly subscription of several hundred dollars, the PPS provides telex news services to some Western embassies and about 25 foreign news organisations.

Some journalists, who have no telex machines at their offices, come to the PPS for news bulletins, Zananiri said in an interview

at his office in Arab East Jerusalem.

Its views are clear from the dispatches it publishes both in its press service and the weekly Al Awdah magazine, which appears in English and Arabic. After a clash between Bethlehem University students and Israeli troops, in which one student was killed and leading to a three-month closure of the university, Al Awdah reported:

"There is an important inference that army-student confrontation almost automatically results in injury and death. In the same fashion, closures of universities are no longer regarded as exceptional measures. We loudly protest the drastic measures taken by the military authorities in closing the university for three months."

There are a half-dozen Arabic daily newspapers in East Jerusalem and a smattering of weeklies, but without Arab-run radio stations in the occupied territories the PPS is virtually the only source of breaking news.

"Our telephone tips are not to be taken for granted. We often have no time to double check because they concern hot events. If it comes from our reporters, we tend to go ahead," Zananiri said.

"But over the years, we managed to establish our credibility,"

he added. The Israeli authorities clamped down on the PPS several years after its founding late in 1977 by Raimonda Tawil, a Palestinian attorney and political activist.

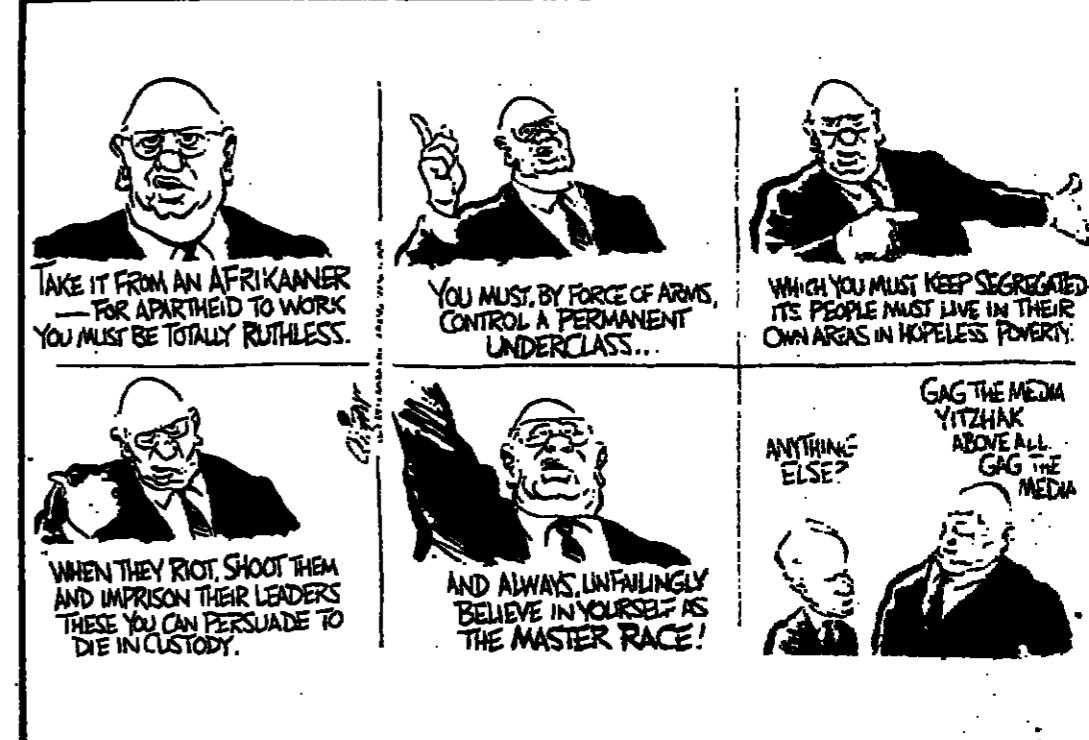
In 1982, the military censor banned publication of a PPS daily newsletter. The Al Awdah magazine cannot be distributed in the West Bank and Gaza Strip because the publishers have been unable to get a permit.

In November, the army ordered Radwan Abu Ayyash, editor of the Al Awdah Arabic version and head of the Arab Journalists Association, held in jail for six months without trial under an administrative detention order.

An Israeli army source alleged at the time that Abu Ayyash was paid by their main Fatah branch of the Palestine Liberation Organization and carried out activities "that have nothing to do with journalism."

"This was aimed not only at our office but at the freedom of expression in general. It was a blow to the whole Palestinian press," Zananiri said.

Ibrahim Karaeen, the PPS' owner, has said the measure "shows how much the Israeli authorities have become sensitive even to the press."



Two months ago, the PPS' telex service was subjected to military censorship. A previous agreement with the censor said the PPS would distribute uncensored material for the use of foreign reporters only, who would then submit their own stories to the military censor.

"We are not allowed, for example, to use the word 'revolt' to describe recent events in the territories," he said. "But these aren't Western-style riots, this is a national uprising."

The agency is usually hours

ahead of the army spokesman in reporting on events and regularly bears state and army radios.

"We also have a problem of access," Zananiri said. "Arab reporters can be detained if they cover a demonstration, and the army would say they took part in it."

Other PPS sources include "people who call us voluntarily or taxi drivers who drive from one Palestinian village to another," he said. Zananiri said that such information can become distorted by rumours.

The recent uprising, for inst-

ance, were sparked after rumours

that the deaths of four Arabs

struck by an Israeli military truck on Dec. 8 was a deliberate act of revenge for the stabbing death of an Israeli businessman.

"A couple of days ago, I got an anonymous phone call, and this person told me that two people were shot dead by Israeli troops in Gaza city," Zananiri said.

"I ordered our reporter to check," he continued, "and he found that the sound of shooting came from fireworks that some children decided to put inside the tires they set ablaze."

Discontent with U.S. military bases grows across the world

By Robert Kearns

Reuter

WASHINGTON — Discontent with U.S. military bases is emerging around the world in a "Yankee go home" trend unmatched since the 1960s, and American officials predict Portugal will soon join the list of unhappy host countries.

Not since the 1960s, when France booted out U.S. and other NATO military forces, has the message "Yankee go home" — or be prepared to pay more for the privilege of staying — been so widespread.

Here, in brief, are some of the problems facing U.S. negotiators in trying to maintain U.S. bases abroad:

Congress last year rejected \$30 million in military aid in a supplemental appropriation bill that was to be added to \$147 million in economic aid.

In consequence, the U.S. sources said they expected the U.S. government in February to invoke a clause in the bases agreement allowing it to review arrangements with Washington, even though the agreement runs until 1991.

"They feel there is a financial imbalance and they want it fixed," one administration official said.

Speaking on condition that he not be named, the official said he hoped American use of the strategically-placed Lajes air base in the Azores could be saved.

But he was not as optimistic about a series of lingering disputes over other U.S. bases raised by most governments in countries such as Spain, the Phi-

ippines, Greece and Turkey. Even the tiny island-state of Mauritius is upset with the nearby presence of the U.S. military in the Indian Ocean.

U.S. officials have attributed the discontent over the American military outposts to rising nationalism, leftist pressure, anti-American feelings and plain greed.

Not since the 1960s, when France booted out U.S. and other NATO military forces, has the message "Yankee go home" — or be prepared to pay more for the privilege of staying — been so widespread.

Here, in brief, are some of the problems facing U.S. negotiators in trying to maintain U.S. bases abroad:

Congress last year rejected \$30 million, nearly double what it had been, but Congress cut it back to \$344 million last year and this.

So Greece reopened negotiations on the bases in November and U.S. officials report that Papandreu wants Washington to make it worth Greece's while to keep them open.

Turkey, where the United States operates air bases as well as important monitoring stations along the Soviet border, was supposed to receive \$912 million in U.S. aid. But Congress has agreed to only \$490 million and rejected a special Reagan administration request for an extra \$125 million.

Security has been stepped up at Rome's main synagogue after a series of recent anti-Semitic outbursts that have alarmed members of Italy's Jewish community, officials have said.

Five members of a neo-fascist youth group, the Fronto Della Gioventu, were arrested on Jan. 6 after they were found scrawling anti-Semitic graffiti, most of it related to the Israeli crackdown on Arab demonstrators in the occupied territories, in a Rome piazza.

"Zionists-assassins, free Palestine," read one graffiti that spurred the arrests, newspapers reported Jan. 8. Similar writings were also found in Milan and Bologna, while the Rome synagogue reported receiving threatening phone calls and telegrams.

Tullia Zevi, president of the union of Italian Jewish communities, confirmed that Italian authorities have tightened security at Jewish institutions, including the Rome synagogue and the Israeli embassy.

Fearing a reprisal linked to the killing of Palestinian youths in Israeli-occupied territory, authorities have also increased the watch at Italian borders, ports and airports, according to news accounts.

"International terrorism is a greater threat to... Jewish institutions than these youngsters," said Ms. Zevi, in a telephone interview with the Associated Press. "We shouldn't overestimate these incidents...."

"The danger is not only intolerance, however. It can become a bigger phenomenon... which doesn't just threaten Jews," she claimed.

Ms. Zevi said the recent inci-

LETTERS

Venezuelan crushes Kim, takes newly-created WBA division title

SEOUL (R) — Venezuela's Leo Gomez won the World Boxing Association (WBA) minimum-weight championship with a unanimous 12-round points verdict over South Korean Kim Bong-Jun in Pusan on Sunday.

There were no knockdowns in the close, action-packed fight at the southeastern city. Neither fighter was in any real trouble.

Judges Rodolfo Hill of Panama and Wiso Fernandez of Puerto Rico both scored the fight 116-115 while another judge from Puerto Rico, Roberto Ramirez, made it 115-114 for Gomez, who

is ranked second in the newly-established 47.6-kg division.

The thousands of local fans packing the Pusan Gymnasium booted the decision, believing their top-ranked compatriot was more aggressive.

"I think they stole the fight from me. How can a fighter who received more punishment be a

winner?" Kim said afterwards. Gomez was not immediately available for comment.

Both fighters began briskly, trading hard punches from the beginning as the bout quickly developed into a tireless slugging match.

Kim forced the fight at close range, but had a hard time trying to pierce the Venezuelan's tight guard.

It was the 18th victory in a three-year professional career for Gomez, whose unbeaten record includes 11 knockouts.

The Korean now has a record of 14 wins, five by knockout, five defeats and three draws.

NBA roundup

Lakers beat Pacers; Rockets raid Suns

NEW YORK (AP) — Magic Johnson and James Worthy scored 21 points apiece Saturday night as the Los Angeles Lakers won their 14th consecutive NBA game, rallying in the fourth quarter to beat the Indiana Pacers 101-98.

Byron Scott added 20 points for the Lakers, including a pair of free throws with seven seconds remaining in the game in Indianapolis.

The Pacers led by seven points after one quarter, four at halftime and three points going into the final period.

The Lakers, whose last loss was to Washington a month ago, caught Indiana and took the lead for good at 94-93 on a layup by Worthy with 4:24 remaining.

In a "Knicks-Celtics" match, rookie Mark Jackson matched his season high with 22 points and Sidney Green scored 12 of his season-high 20 in the fourth quarter.

As New York defeated Boston 106-98.

Green scored eight points during a 14-3 spurt that broke a 91-91 tie with 3 minutes left and gave New York a 105-94 lead with 24 seconds remaining.

Jackson also finished with 14 assists for the Knicks, who snapped three-game losing streak while holding the Celtics to 63 points after the first quarter in the game in New York.

Elsewhere, Charles Barkley scored 35 points and Cliff Robinson added 27 as Philadelphia beat Cleveland 126-110 for their fourth straight victory.

Maurice Cheeks had 17 points and 16 assists for the 76ers in the game in Philadelphia. The 76ers improved their record to 16-15.

Michael Jordan hit the 40-point mark for the sixth time this season with a game-high 45, and Chicago beat Utah Jazz 113-91 as the Rockets won for the seventh time in nine games.

Olympic flame heading towards target

TORONTO (AP) — Snowmobiles crossed northern Ontario this week carrying the Olympic flame towards Calgary, where preparations almost are complete for the most expensive and longest Winter Olympics in history.

Despite fears that the XV

Olympic Winter Games from Feb. 13-28 might be spoiled by a shortage of snow, a New Year cold snap virtually has guaranteed excellent skiing, organisers said.

Computer-controlled snow-making machinery has stockpiled two to three feet (0.6-1 metre) of puffy, artificial snow which even Calgary's occasional mild chinook winds should not melt.

A yeast-like dead bacteria is added to the water to make it explode into larger, more sturdy flakes.

Latecomers still are welcome to attend the games; since 400,000 tickets remain unsold and corporate cancellations have opened up previously unobtainable hotel space, both in Calgary and nearby Banff where 600 rooms were available last week.

"You've got a better chance of getting a room today than you did a year ago," said John Varga, the Olympic Housing Bureau manager.

The bureau also has found places for 4,500 people a night in Calgary homes, either in 50-dollar (\$38) per couple bed and breakfast-style accommodation, or by renting entire houses at rates up to 2,300 dollars (\$1,770) a day.

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With hotel rooms ranging from 90 dollars (\$70)

U.S., EC press 'four tigers'

NUSA DUA, Indonesia (R) — Trade chiefs of the United States and the European Community (EC) are increasing pressure on Asia's newly industrialised countries to revalue their currencies and reduce trade surpluses to help the battered U.S. dollar.

During an international conference on the Indonesian resort island of Bali at the weekend, the trade representatives said they wanted to see a new attitude from Asia's so-called "four tigers" — Taiwan, South Korea, Singapore and Hong Kong.

EC Trade Commissioner Willy De Clercq told reporters the four had enjoyed strong economic growth over the past 20 years and must now be ready to make concessions to help ease the international trading system.

In particular, both the U.S. and the 12-nation EC see the currencies of the four as undervalued and want action to remove trade barriers.

"I am in agreement with others who say their exchange rates have to be adapted to reality, so that (the four) can take part in the collective burden sharing of an improved multi-lateral trading system," Mr. De Clercq stated.

U.S. Trade Representative Clayton Yeutter said the tigers must be prepared to accept a greater sense of responsibility for the functioning of the world trading system.

"And that means that people will begin to evaluate how their exchange rates relate to those elsewhere in the world, whether they are opening up their markets as they should, and all the other elements of global economic responsibility," he declared.

U.S. ire is specifically directed against the large trade surpluses built up by Taiwan and South Korea.

"With success comes responsibility," Mr. Yeutter said. "And what we've been saying is that it's

time for those particular countries to do more than they have in the past. They are ready for that. They are capable of doing it politically and economically."

"Among other things," Mr. Yeutter added, "because of some of the trade imbalances which exist today, we also believe their exchange rates do not reflect economic fundamentals and they should."

Hong Kong, whose currency is linked to the U.S. dollar, has strongly resisted a revaluation so far. Taiwan's currency has risen by more than 30 per cent against the dollar since late 1985, while the South Korean won rose nearly nine per cent in 1987.

Taiwan and South Korea had current account surpluses of around \$20.5 and \$9.4 billion respectively in (calendar) 1987, according to the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development.

jobs under the new plans, which are still being discussed and which are expected to be formally announced before the end of the month.

Mr. Smith estimated that as many as 100 employees have been dismissed within the last two months, 33 of whom were full-time, regular employees terminated to cut back costs. UPI has 1,250 employees, he said.

Mr. Smith said UPI is also considering offering more limited services to news clients, such as a photo-service only service, rather than requiring them to take the basic news report.

He said he did not know how many employees would lose their

Mr. Smith denied that UPI may be looking for a buyer.

UPI plans to restructure operations

WASHINGTON (AP) — United Press International (UPI) is planning to reduce its coverage of U.S. local news and instead concentrate on big stories in an effort to put the company back on a solid financial footing, a UPI spokesman said Saturday.

UPI spokesman Christopher Smith said the company's plans will include scaling back operations in some bureaus and offering different ways of packaging services to client news media.

"We are looking at ways to get UPI back onto a solid financial footing," Mr. Smith said. He said UPI, which is owned by Mexico City businessman Mario Vasquez Rana, has been losing about \$1 million a month.

Kremlin liberalises farming policies

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union has drafted new collective farm statutes giving agricultural workers greater scope for private initiative and allowing farms to set up direct trade links with the West.

The draft, published on Sunday in the newspaper Sovetskaya Rossiya, are expected to be discussed at a countrywide congress of collective farmers provisionally scheduled for March, analysts said.

They said the statutes reflected Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev's calls for reform to boost agricultural output by creating greater incentives for workers on collective farms.

"The Kolkhoz (collective farm) is a school of communism for the peasantry," the draft stated in a preface.

It made clear there was no intention to weaken the collective farm system which Josef Stalin forcibly created in the early 1930s at a cost estimated by Western

historians at millions of lives. But it restated the principle that membership in a Kolkhoz was voluntary.

The rules say Kolkhoz workers may use the collective's farm machinery and pastures for gardening on private plots and private livestock breeding. Previously families were expected to use their own equipment for gardening on private plots.

The draft formally authorises use of the "family-contract" system, which allows families to sub-contract work from farm managers with their income tied to results.

In a speech last June, Mr. Gorbachev called for extension of the family- and team-contract systems, saying they had proved highly efficient and material rewards were high.

The draft rules give collective farms the right to establish trade links with agricultural cooperatives in East Bloc countries and with firms in the West and de-

veloping world.

"Kolkhozes bear full responsibility for their foreign economic links," the draft says, making clear the state did not intend to bail out loss-making trade ventures.

The farms have also been given the right to set up food processing plants on their premises and to make and sell building materials and consumer goods to firms once they have fulfilled their commitments to the state.

The rules say Kolkhozes have sole responsibility for use of their income and draft their own one- and five-year plans for farm production. Although this was theoretically true in the past, in practice output targets were determined by the state.

Collective farms may rent, sell or lend their equipment and premises to firms or organisations for temporary use. The rules state that they may conclude contracts with individuals, suggesting that hired labour might be possible.

There was hope that confidence would strengthen and lead to sensible rates.

Tanker war induces Gulf 'pipeline fever'

BAHRAIN (R) — The Gulf tanker war has triggered "pipeline fever" in the region with oil producing states scrambling to build overland pipelines to reduce their dependence on ships to export their major source of income.

Pipeline-mania has captured every Gulf oil state," said one oil analyst in the region, commenting on efforts to move away from tankers vulnerable to attack.

"They all want to safeguard their exports by sending the oil out through other than the Gulf routes," he added.

States bordering the Gulf possess 58 per cent of world's proven oil reserves. Some six million barrels, or one-eighth of non-communist world's oil supplies, pass through the Strait of Hormuz at the mouth of the Gulf in tankers every day.

But since Iran and Iraq have seized the Gulf into the most dangerous stretch of water in the world, disruption of oil flow out of the waterway is a possibility.

Over 440 vessels, mostly tankers, have been attacked since the Iran-Iraq war started in the Gulf in 1981.

Iraq exports all its oil by pipeline but Baghdad's Gulf Arab backers are open to Iranian attack and the Iraqi air force pounds Iranian ships.

Oil industry sources said Saudi Arabia, the world's biggest oil exporter, is examining the possibility of expanding the pipeline by 1.5 million b/d.

But as pipelines cost money, Saudi oil pumped to Yanbu is more expensive than that delivered at Gulf terminals.

So, industry sources said, the kingdom exports a vast portion of its around three million b/d of oil from the Gulf in ships.

Iraq pumps 1.5 million b/d to the Mediterranean via two 1,000-kilometre pipelines through Turkey and makes use of the Saudi pipeline to send 500,000 b/d to

Yanbu.

The Saudis have conducted a study on the feasibility of sending oil from the six-member Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) to the Omani Indian Ocean coast.

The GCC includes Saudi Arabia, Oman, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain and Kuwait.

Although the study was not made public, oil industry sources said it suggested three alternative routes from GCC states inside the Gulf to the Omani coastline outside.

The sources said Kuwait, which has re-registered half its tanker fleet as American to gain U.S. navy protection, is considering building a 1,000-kilometre pipeline through Saudi Arabia to the Red Sea.

The United Arab Emirates in 1984 prepared a feasibility study on transporting one million b/d of oil to its emirate of Fujairah on the Indian Ocean.

The study was revived last year but shelved again due to the huge costs involved, an oil industry executive said.

On top of the pipelines already building by Iraq, Baghdad via two 1,000-kilometre pipelines through Saudi Arabia at a cost of \$1.4 billion. The pipeline will be operational in 1989.

Another 70,000 b/d pipeline

from the northern Iraq oilfields to the Turkish refining town of Batman is under construction and Iraq is negotiating another 300,000 b/d pipeline to Batman, Turkish energy ministry sources said last week.

Iraq lost the ability to export

650,000 b/d in 1982 when Damascus, which supports Iran in the Gulf war, closed the taps on a trans-Syrian pipeline in sympathy with Tehran.

Unlike Iraq, Iran depends solely on tankers in the Gulf to export its oil.

It operates a fleet, frequently

under Iraqi attack, which carries

oil from its northern Gulf termin-

als at Kharg Island to relatively safer waters in the south where it is trans-shipped to customers' tankers.

Despite Iraq's attacks, Iran was

able to export between 1.3 and

more than two million b/d throughout 1987.

But Tehran is also seeking a

safer way to export its oil other

than through dangerous tanker

operations in the Gulf.

Oil industry sources said an

Iranian delegation held talks with

Turkish authorities on the possi-

bility of building a pipeline

through Turkey with a capacity of

500,000 b/d and one

financing.

The sources said Iran was

constructing some sections link-

ing oil and gas fields in the south

of the country and the project

might be revived when the govern-

ment finds the necessary

financing.

The GCC was established six

years ago by the conservative

Arab states of the oil-rich region.

It is moving gradually toward

economic unity patterned along

the lines of the European Com-

munity.

If agreement is reached on the

subject, the GCC states could be

declared a joint economic zone

with a unified economic agree-

ment in full operation, enabling

them to confront the other econo-

mic communities in the world."

Mr. Zawawi said, "I hope an

agreement is reached."

Qaboos calls for solid economic strategy

MUSCAT, Oman (AP) — Sultan Qaboos of Oman Saturday urged "maximum alertness" in facing international economic instability.

His senior economist was earlier quoted by a newspaper as calling for a unified economic strategy by the six Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states to deal more effectively with the world's economic blocs.

Major challenges are confronting the international community in its entirety as a result of the unstable world economic conditions," the sultan told the inaugural session of Oman's appointed consultative council.

Brokers have said rumours of a three-nation pact were among factors which helped the dollar during a rebound it made last week from historic lows.

Mr. Bangemann said: "No. There is no such secret agreement. There is a clear readiness ... to do everything, and especially that the central banks will do everything, to smooth out erratic fluctuations with the use of appropriate measures."

In the interview, given on Jan. 7, Mr. Bangemann said the dollar rebound indicated that markets were confident that major industrial nations were ready to stabilise exchange rates.

There was hope that confidence would strengthen and lead to sensible rates.

This requires the maximum degree of alertness to the nature of these challenges and to dealing with them in a flexible manner that limits their negative impact," he added.

The council was asked to guarantee incentives to enable continuation of oil-fuelled development plans.

The sultanate has been seeking to diversify its economy to break away from dependence on oil in view of weakened oil prices.

The sultan said Oman was determined to encourage private investment in industrial projects based on local resources, to meet domestic demands and create

material in midnight raids on suburban yards.

Among his targets have been the monopoly state iron and steel producer Siderperu and Perulac, a subsidiary of the Swiss multinational Nestle which produces 15 per cent of Peru's evaporated milk.

President Garcia accused Peru of hoarding more than three million tins of evaporated milk, a staple in Peru, and ordered a government team to investigate the company with a view to selling part of it to farmers.

Perulac said the tins were a month's stock which it kept to ensure constant supplies but President Garcia said it faced a fine

five times the value of the produce uncovered.

Shortages and hoarding of building materials were a more serious threat to President Garcia's economic programme and he said there will be a thorough shakeup of the management of Siderperu.

Peru's 15.5 per cent growth in the past two years, the highest in Latin America and President Garcia's biggest economic success, has been partly a result of expansion in the building industry.

Inflation was 9.6 per cent in Peru in December, the highest monthly rate since President Garcia's first month in office, August

1985, putting additional strains on the government's pricing policy.

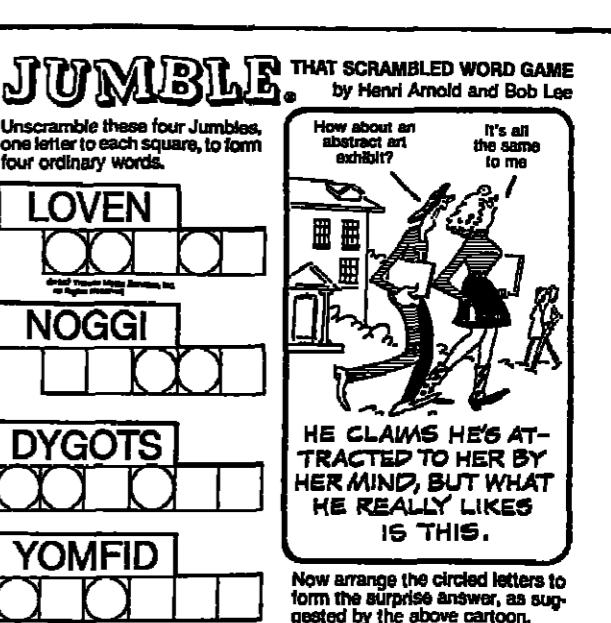
President Garcia brought inflation down from more than 190 per cent to less than 60 per cent with a price freeze.

Forecasts of a credit crunch, caused by the depletion of international reserves, have added to fears of shortages and economists' predictions that inflation would rise to about 200 per cent this year have encouraged speculative hoarding.

THE BETTER HALF



JUMBLE



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: WHAT SHE

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday | Jumbles: TARRY RANCH PYTHON FIZZLE

Answer: What the guy who thought

